

Message Text

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PAGE 01 WARSAW 05823 120801Z

ACTION OES-09

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FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6086

UNCLAS WARSAW 5823

FOR OES/APT/SEP

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: TGEN, PL

SUBJ: VISIT OF DR. BENNO SCHOENBORN, BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY

1. COMMERCIAL TELEGRAM FROM MANCY GARGLIARDO, BROOKHAVEN, RECEIVED HERE JULY 8, REQUESTED THE EMBASSY TO ASCERTAIN FROM ORBIS WHETHER WE COULD RESERVE AND PREPAY IN ZLOTYS HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS ALONG WITH RELATED EXPENSES FOR DR. SCHOENBORN IN CONNECTION WITH HIS PLANS TO ATTEND THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF CRYSTALLOGRAPHY EARLY NEXT MONTH.

2. ORBIS REPRESENTATIVE INFORMS US THAT AS AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE, THEY WOULD BE WILLING TO ACCEPT PAYMENT IN ZLOTYS IF THE EMBASSY SUBMITS AN APPROPRIATE LETTER ATTESTING TO THE OFFICIAL STATUS AND SOURCE OF FUNDS OF THE PARTICIPANT. HE SAID THAT ONLY THE REGISTRATION

FEE (120 US DOLLARS OR EQUIVALENT IN ZLOTYS) WAS REQUIRED IN ADVANCE WHILE THE OTHER COSTS (HOTEL WILL ALL MEALS, AND EXCURSION TO KRAKOW) COULD BE PAID UPON ARRIVAL. THE ONLY SINGLE ROOM ACCOMMODATIONS STILL AVAILABLE IN WARSAW FOR PARTICIPANTS ARE AT THE HOTEL VICTORIA, AT A COST OF 724 DOLLARS (OR EQUIVALENT) FOR ROOM AND MEALS. THE KRAKOW EXCURSION IS AN ADDITIONAL 135 DOLLARS (OR EQUIVALENT). HE INDICATED THAT NONE OF THESE FEES IS REFUNDABLE, SO THAT THE EMBASSY WOULD BE LIABLE FOR THE ENTIRE AMOUNT OF ALL COSTS IF A RESERVATION WERE MADE.

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3. HE SAID THAT SCHOENBORN COULD SUBMIT HIS APPLICATIONS FOR ATTENDANCE TO THE POLISH NATIONAL TOURIST OFFICE INFORMATION CENTER, APARTMENT 1435, 500 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY (PHONE 354-1487). SINCE THE PROPOSED PAYMENT IN ZLOTYS WAS UNUSUAL, HOWEVER, PLUS THE ADDED COMPLICATION OF LATE APPLICATION, HE INDICATED UNCERTAINTY WHETHER THE ARRANGEMENTS, INCLUDING VISA, WOULD PROCEED SMOOTHLY.

HE NOTED THAT THE ORGANIZATION OF THIS CONFERENCE WAS A HUGE UNDERTAKING, WITH SOME 1600 PARTICIPANTS EXPECTED.

4. PLEASE INFORM BROOKHAVEN THAT, IF THEY WISH US TO PROCEED, WE WILL NEED AUTHORIZATION, WITH APPROPRIATE FISCAL DATA, AND INSTRUCTIONS, THROUGH STATE DEPARTMENT CHANNELS. WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND, AS A PRUDENT FIRST STEP, THAT A CHECK BE MADE WITH THE TOURIST OFFICE INFORMATION CENTER IN NEW YORK AND PERHAPS WITH THE POLISH CONSULATE AS WELL, TO DETERMINE WHETHER ANY PARTICULAR HITCHES ARE FORESEEN. BROOKHAVEN SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE OF THE NON-REFUNDABLE STIPULATION NOTED ABOVE.
SCHAUFLE

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